

**REMARKS**

With the cancellation of claim 11 and the addition of claims 20 to 30, claims 12 to 30 are currently pending in the present application, since claims 1 to 10 were previously canceled. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner to the acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 paper, and cited references.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 17 and 19 are allowable. In this regard, the Examiner will note that each of claims 17 and 19 has been amended herein without prejudice to be in independent form and to include the subject matter of its base claim. The Examiner will further note that claims 12 to 14 have been amended herein without prejudice so that claims 12 to 16 ultimately depend from claim 17 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 17. The Examiner will further note that claim 18 depends from, and therefore includes all of the features of and is allowable for the same reasons as, claim 17; and claim 20 depends from, and therefore includes all of the features of and is allowable for the same reasons as, claim 19. Therefore, the rejection of claims 18 and 20 appears to have been made in error. Indeed, on January 29, 2009, the Examiner telephonically indicated that the rejection of these dependent claims were made in error. Accordingly, claims 12 to 20 are in condition for immediate allowance.

The remaining rejected claim has been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the remaining claim rejections.

New claims 21 to 30 have been added herein. Claims 21 to 30 do not add any new matter and are supported by the application, including specification, as originally file. Claims 21 to 29 ultimately depend from claim 19 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 19. Claim 30 depends from claim 17 and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 17.

Accordingly, all of pending claims 12 to 30 are in condition for immediate allowance.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the claims as previously presented in a continuation patent application. Further, any disclaimer that may have occurred during the prosecution of this application is expressly rescinded as regards any subsequently filed patent application.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of pending claims 12 to 30 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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